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thanks sponsor, Page 4



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playoffs tonight, Page 12

# AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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## VETERANS HOUSING

# Funding snags delaying Soldier On

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

Soldier On has the town's permission to develop veterans housing on South Westfield Street, but three years later — and after a

few modifications to the plan — the money still isn't there.

"The final construction budget was substantially higher than could be supported by the limited funding award made by the DHCD," the state Department of

Housing and Community Development, Soldier On Chief Executive Officer John Downing said in a Feb. 26 letter to Mayor Richard Cohen.

That's why the building at 702 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, re-

mains boarded up and vacant, even though Soldier On was granted a comprehensive permit in March 2012, amended in January 2013 and July 2014 after a combination of lower-than-expected grant funding and higher-

than-expected renovation costs prompted the organization to change its building plans.

The nonprofit organization has opened low- to moderate-income veterans housing facilities

SOLDIER | page 11

## HIGH SCHOOL

# Brownie boosters warm up on ice

*Student fans fill the rink as Agawam hockey skates through playoffs*

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

About six years ago, the Agawam High School ice hockey team was on the rise.

The Brownies were always finding themselves upended by rival Holyoke (now South Hadley) in Division III-A, but the support from their fans was constant.

Enter Chris Basile, who spent much of his middle school years

FANS | page 13



Agawam High School has some of the region's best student hockey fans, who come out in droves to support their home team at almost every game throughout the season. The Brownies play for the Western Mass. Division III championship tonight. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

## STEM EDUCATION

# Jr. high students make a splash with life vests

*Project puts science, design, engineering skills in practice*

By Mike Lydick  
aan@turley.com

Plastic bottles, pieces of Styrofoam, duct tape, and rope are all items commonly found in most homes. They're also among the materials 24 Agawam Junior High School students used to create a life-saving device.

The eighth-grade students in a science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) class recently plunged into a project that took them from the classroom to the school's swimming pool. The project challenged six teams of four students to design

VESTS | page 6



Veniamin "Ben" Iovenco floats in the AJHS pool while testing his team's winning design of a life vest. COURTESY PHOTO.

## STATE LEGISLATORS

# New laws hurt business, Chamber members say

By Michael J. Ballway  
mballway@turley.com

Recent laws intended to help employees are driving up the cost of business, Chamber of Commerce members told legislators last week.

During a question-and-answer session at the Feb. 25 Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast in West Springfield, a few business owners railed against the recent ballot referendum forcing employers to provide sick leave to all employees, the health care mandate and low-cost subsidized plans in the federal Affordable Care Act (known as "Obamacare"), and the increased minimum wage in Massachusetts.

"It just seems to be getting harder and harder for small businesses," said Frank Palange, owner of V&F Auto on Springfield Street in Agawam.

All four state legislators repre-

CHAMBER | page 6



John Weiss, president of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, speaks at the Feb. 25 Legislative Breakfast at Storowton Tavern. Standing at right is master of ceremonies Tony Cignoli. SUBMITTED PHOTO



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## Correction

Football field namesake Harmon A. Smith's years of service to Agawam High School were described incorrectly in the Feb. 26 Agawam Advertiser News ("Legacy on Track," page 1). Smith was the school's football coach from the 1920s through mid-1950s, and its athletic director thereafter until the late 1960s.

## Writing competition winners to be honored

The Agawam Cultural Council will hold a reception to celebrate and honor winners of the fifth annual Writing Competition on Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the community room at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

Winners in all categories that qualified for judging will share their work for the audience's enjoyment. Various dignitaries have been invited. Light refreshments will be served after the presentation.

The Agawam Cultural Council affords the opportunity to all writers in the town of Agawam in hopes of encouraging a lifelong love of the written word.

## Tavern Luncheon fundraiser to be held March 14

The popular "Tavern Luncheon" fundraiser returns on Saturday, March 14, to Agawam's Captain Charles Leonard House at 663 Main St. A hearty, hot lunch of chicken à la king will be served at two seatings, one at 11:30 a.m. and one at 1 p.m. The main course, dessert and coffee will be served by the Captain Leonard House's all-volunteer board of trustees. A donation of \$12 per meal is suggested and reservations are required. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 413-786-9421. Take-out meals are also available.

The luncheon will also feature an accompanying and much-anticipated linen, china, silver and collectibles sale. Many fine pieces are to be found at very reasonable prices.

The proceeds of the luncheon and sale will aid in the preservation of the National Register-listed Captain Leonard House, which has operated as Agawam's Community House since 1939, and is available to rent for family functions and business events.

The Captain Leonard House was built in 1805 as a stage tavern to serve travelers on the Hartford-Boston route. The house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975, and occupies a prominent location in the Agawam Center National Register Historic District. The Captain Leonard House is considered to be Agawam's finest Federal-era home. The house is available to rent for business functions and social events. For more information, call 413-786-9421 or visit [www.captainleonardhouse.com](http://www.captainleonardhouse.com).



The historic Captain Charles Leonard House has stood sentinel on Agawam's Main Street since 1805.



Hearty fare and good fellowship are the hallmarks of the Captain Charles Leonard House's Tavern Luncheons. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## Spring programs for children at Agawam Public Library

This program incorporates books, rhymes, music, movement and child-parent interaction into a dynamic program. Registration is required.

Mother Goose on the Loose for Tiny Tots: Mondays, March 23, 30, April 6, 13, 10:30-11:30 a.m., for ages 0-24 months.

Mother Goose on the Loose for Terrific Toddlers: Thursdays, March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m., for ages 25-36 months.

Preschool Storytime: For ages 3-5 years, Mondays, March 23, 30, April 6, 13, from

9:30-10:30 a.m. or Tuesdays, March 24, 31, April 7, 14, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. Enjoy stories, music, and a simple craft followed by 30 minutes of playtime. Registration required.

PJ Story Time: Children ages 3-5 are welcome to wear pajamas Wednesdays, March 25, April 1, 8, 15, at 6 p.m. Enjoy 30 minutes of stories, music and a simple craft. Registration required.

When school is cancelled or delayed, library programs are cancelled.

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For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email [mballway@turley.com](mailto:mballway@turley.com).  
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## Are You Old News?

Each week the Agawam Advertiser News digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com). Please include your first and last name.



\*\*\*  
Last week's photo: Correctly identifying John Burns were Larry Scherpa, Fran Leclerc, Helen Marganti and Walter Willard.

## Library collecting PJs for needy children

The Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., is partnering with Cradles to Crayons and the Boston Bruins to provide new pajamas for local children in need across the commonwealth. Sizes 4/5T through 18/20 are needed. New pajama donations are being accepted at the library now through March 16.

## Corned beef dinner to benefit St. Patrick's Committee

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee will host its annual Corned Beef Fundraiser Dinner Monday, March 16, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

The night's events will include celebrating the 15th anniversary of the committee and the presentation of the 2015 Colleen and court. There will also be raffle prizes.

Tickets, which are only available in advance, may be purchased by contacting Kerri O'Connor at 413-575-3582 or Diane Pirnie at 413-786-9341. Prices are \$12 for adults and \$7 for children.

## Council 're-passes' wireless zone amendment

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
[gscibelli@turley.com](mailto:gscibelli@turley.com)

The Agawam City Council has approved the first reading of a new section in the wireless communications ordinance.

The change in the town code will be made official after an expected affirmative vote at the March 16 meeting, the second reading.

The amendment to the town code will allow the Agawam City Council to require wireless communications companies to pay for experts to study the best locations for proposed property to be added to the Wireless Communications Overlay District.

The amendment had actually passed late last year, but a procedural error caused City Council President Christopher Johnson to withdraw the ordinance in frustration to resistance from the Planning Department to simply modify the process.

Any time an ordinance referring to zoning comes forward, the City Council is required to refer the ordinance to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Johnson acknowledged that he failed to send it the Planning Board for a recommendation and offered to do so. After a recommen-

dation was made, the City Council would reaffirm its vote, Johnson said.

Planning Board Chairman Mark Paleologopoulos, however, said the Planning Board would not consider the proposal unless the City Council started over and followed the proper procedure, leading to Johnson withdrawing the code change. When he withdrew, Johnson did offer his fellow councilors the opportunity to support the code change.

Councilors Robert Rossi, Gina Letellier, and Vice President Dennis Perry all stepped up to sponsor the ordinance and it was reposted and referred to the Planning Board.

"It's a bit frustrating because there is a cost to advertise this again in the newspaper," said Johnson.

The Planning Board unanimously recommended the ordinance after a public hearing held in early February. On Monday night, a public hearing was held at the regular City Council meeting. With no comments at the public hearing, the code change passed unanimously, 9-0.

Johnson said the passage of the code change would allow the City Council the opportunity to determine whether or not a property should be added to the overlay district.

"It's going to be an important tool for the council to use for future applications for zone changes," said Johnson.

Johnson was mayor of Agawam in the late 1990s when the Wireless Overlay District was established. He said the technology at the time was limited and there was no anticipation that more wireless towers would be needed.

"When we established the overlay, wireless communications was in its infancy," said Johnson. "Wireless communications has become more and more about data use."

Johnson stopped short of saying there should be a town-wide review of the overlay district. He said the City Council will likely consider zone changes for additional wireless towers on a case-by-case basis.

The council recently approved a zone change to allow Verizon Wireless to place a new tower at 495 Mill St. Following the zone change approval, Verizon Wireless was in the process of getting Zoning Board of Appeals approval last month so construction can begin. Verizon Wireless executives believe the Mill Street tower will improve wireless communications in the center of Agawam.

## Bus driver, student named Hometown Heroes

Two Agawam residents will be honored as Hometown Heroes at an American Red Cross of Western Massachusetts event this month.

Sue Lecrenski of Feeding Hills and Whitney Shortt of Agawam were among the nine Pioneer Valley residents selected for this honor. Lecrenski and Shortt were cited as the school bus driver and student, respectively, who combined to save the life of another Agawam student suffering an allergic reaction last year.

Hometown Heroes is an annual initiative to recognize "those in the community who have acted extraordinarily on behalf of others." Each year, the honorees are celebrated at the annual Hometown Heroes Breakfast. This year's breakfast is March 19 at the MassMutual Center in Springfield.

"We are pleased to honor these exemplary members of our community," said Kim Goulette, executive director of

the local Red Cross chapter. "The heroic actions of these individuals perfectly represent our mission of alleviating and preventing human suffering."

This year's Heroes also include Springfield fire Lt. Brian Tredo, a Belchertown resident; Ludlow resident Paul Ganieany Jr.; Chicopee 11-year-old Landon Himmelreich; East Longmeadow parents Gina Kenison and Radcliffe Kenison Jr.; Springfield resident Matthew Gosselin; and Belchertown resident Vicky Martins Auffrey.

Sponsorships and tickets are still available for the breakfast. For further information, contact Gina Czerwinski at [gina.czerwinski2@redcross.org](mailto:gina.czerwinski2@redcross.org) or 413-233-1035.

The Western Massachusetts Chapter serves a population of 690,000 people in the counties of Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire and Franklin, and is part of the Massachusetts Region of the American Red Cross.

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# Opinion

## OUR VIEW

### Getting an education out of the classroom

Some of the best education in Agawam is taking place after the bell rings.

Over the past few weeks, this newspaper has reported on the objections of many Agawam parents and school officials to the state and federal governments' decades-long trend toward standardized tests and a one-size-fits-all curriculum. But we've also been happy to showcase the creative ways in which Agawam schools and community volunteers are teaching our children the real-world skills that will make them stand out from every other high school or college graduate when they enter the job market.

The Agawam Junior High School students who built their own life vests are taking their first step toward being tomorrow's inventors, crafters and problem solvers.

The Rosie Robotics club members who will compete in this weekend's tournament — and the members of the several robotics teams at the high and junior high school levels in Agawam — are taking the first step toward careers in high technology.

The high school students who took on mentors in the business world are part of a West of the River Chamber of Commerce program over the past year that can prepare students for just about any occupation that exists in Greater Springfield.

And it's more than just skills. An intern at a radio station may strengthen her public speaking ability, or learn how to operate sound equipment, or absorb facts about the difference between amplitude modulation and frequency modulation. She will also, however, gain the valuable experience of observing professionals at their jobs; the confidence of knowing she can succeed in a real-world workplace; and the connections she may need to get started in her career, after she graduates.

This is not to belittle what happens in the classroom. Agawam's talented teachers and administrators work hard to make every hour of class time count, and all the enrichment activities in the world mean nothing if students lack a solid factual grounding in the subject. Students can't build working life vests without first understanding the principle of buoyancy.

But the experiences that will set a great education apart from a good education in the 21st century are not found in a state framework or an exam booklet. They are found "out there" in the world we are training these students to conquer.

*What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).*

## Letters to the Editor

### ADOG fundraiser a huge success

I would like to express, on behalf of the Agawam Dog Owners Group board of directors, our sincere thanks to all those involved in our recent Comedy Night. It was a tremendous success on many levels and we are thrilled to have experienced such an exciting evening.

Our heartfelt thanks goes to all those who attended our event and helped to make the night so spectacular.

We also want to thank each business and individual who contributed donation items for our raffle. In addition, thank you to the Strycharz family and all the wonderful staff at Oak Ridge Golf Club who were so accommodating to us. I would also like to thank all of the ADOG members who put so much of their time and energy into making the night a success. Our thanks also go to Dave Rattigan of Scamps Comedy Production for providing such awesome talent for the show.

We were able to raise thousands of dollars, which will help to support the upcoming dog park. As we move closer to construction, the monies raised will help fund additional play equipment and other needed items for the park. We are looking forward to the groundbreaking as soon as the snow melts and hope you can follow the progress and see other fundraising events we have on our website, [www.AgawamDogPark.com](http://www.AgawamDogPark.com).

**Debbi Sanchez, president**  
Agawam Dog Owners Group



## YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

### Five drummers drumming

When Roger Kida '67 was about 8 years old, he got interested in rock bands. For the next few years he learned to play the accordion but since that was useless in a rock band, he switched to the drums when he was 12. Roger's father's mom bought him his first set of drums and she probably had no inkling of what she had started.

In 1964, Roger, Steve Olivo (bass) and Greg Hart (guitar) formed a rock band called the Splendells. In 1965, keyboard player Lauren Maniscalchi was added and the group changed its name to Of Royalty. They played at UMass school and fraternity parties and at other colleges in the northeast until 1967 when the group disbanded. Maybe you remember Of Royalty's Cadillac hearse in the AHS parking lot in 1966.

Roger continued playing the drums after high school with bands such as Hot Moose, Some of My Best Friends and Clean Living. He settled in California and has been a real estate broker in Ventura for the last 30 years. Roger's wife is Judy Benjamin

'68. She teaches special needs children and she and Roger have a son Geoffrey, who teaches social studies. The last time I spoke to Roger he was taking his two grandchildren to the park. We'll be doing that here hopefully soon, or is this the start of a new Ice Age?



**Walt Willard**  
Guest Columnist

Steve Kida '70 followed in Roger's drum footsteps. He has been a professional drummer since high school and toured internationally playing for Canned Heat. He and his wife, Crystal, live outside of Los Angeles in Glendora.

Under David Kida's '79 Sachem picture are the words, "playing the drums." If you have a computer, try [www.themightyflyers.com/dave.htm](http://www.themightyflyers.com/dave.htm). You can read Dave's story and the dream he had as a kid. You can read about his seven years touring with Janiva Magness and his last 10 years with blues singer Rod Piazza. Dave thanks "all the good people who come to see the shows. Without you I'd be playing in my parents' basement still." That would be on Corey Street in Agawam. David and his

HOMETOWN | page 5



From left, John McCarthy Sr.; Nicole Bertera, Agawam St Patrick's Committee treasurer; and John McCarthy Jr. SUBMITTED PHOTO

### McCarthy's Liquors deserves thanks

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee would like to extend sincere gratitude to John McCarthy Sr. and John McCarthy Jr., of McCarthy's Liquors located at 430 Main St., Agawam. They generously sponsored the 2015 Colleen contestants that participated in our event that was held Feb. 8 at Chez Josef.

When John McCarthy Sr. was approached about sponsoring the 2015 Col-

leen contestants, his response was, "I think all local businesses need to show their support to the community organizations that are important to them. It means something to me and to my family to give back to the community when we can. With a last name of McCarthy, how could we not help out the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee?"

Agawam St. Patrick's Committee



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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).



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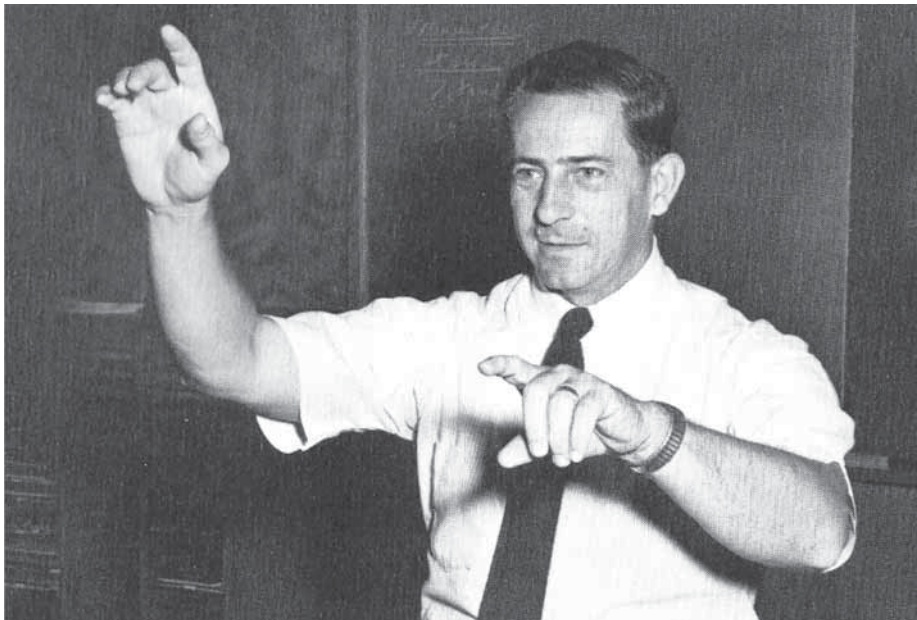
## HOMETOWN ■ from page 4

wife, Celia, live outside of Los Angeles in Harbor City. He has come back to Western Mass. to play in reunions of Canned Heat.

Roger Kida wrote to tell me that he has been playing the trombone in local bands for the last 18 years. Puzzled by this seemingly unlikely switch, I called Darcy Davis for an explanation. He told me, "If you have the rhythms figured out, that's half the battle."

Darcy started playing the drums in junior high. By high school he was playing Gene Krupa drum solos in the school's annual variety show. He came to Agawam in 1955, becoming the AHS music director in our brand new, state-of-the-art high school. By now you should know the rest of that story.

Barry Boccasile '76 is another drummer well known to us. He said he found a drum in his home's attic when he was seven and he has been playing ever since. His first teachers were Sally Lowell and Mr. Davis here in Agawam. He then went to the Berklee School of Music for two years. He began his full-time professional career in 1978, touring as the drummer for Touch of Class. They toured the Far East playing in the Pacific Air Command shows. Barry said the shows were similar to the ones Bob Hope used to do for our military bases. Barry came back to the U.S. and played for Frank Sinatra Jr., Natalie Cole, Ben Ver-



Darcy Davis

een and others. He later returned to Western Massachusetts playing for local bands and teaching private music lessons, having over 60 students at one point. By 1988, Barry switched from part-time to full-time real estate and he now is the manager of the highly successful Park Square Real Estate office in Feeding Hills. You probably saw Barry at some point playing at a wedding with Jay Contrino for the band Com-

The idea for this column was suggested to me by the late Jean Clifford, who was a neighbor of the Kida boys about 50 years ago. Our thoughts are with you Jean and thank you.

*Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.*



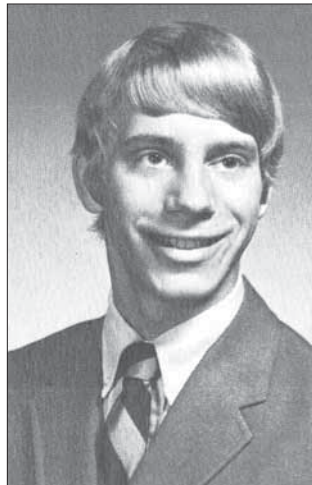
Roger Kida



Barry Boccasile



David Kida



Stephen Kida

## SCHOOL AGENDA

### Regular School Committee Meeting

**Roberta G. Doering School**  
68 Main St., Agawam  
Tuesday, March 10 – 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Moment of silence
3. Roll call of attendance
4. Regular meeting – 7 p.m.
5. Citizen's Speak Time
6. Highlights on Education
  - a. Foreign Language Week presentation
7. Superintendent's Notes
8. Student Advisory Committee representative update
9. Unfinished Business:
  - a. SCR-15-05, Acceptance of donation of a new backboard and rim for the Doering School small gym from the Agawam Athletic Association
10. Business meeting:
  - a. Routine Matters
    - 1) Approval of minutes
    - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
  - b. Warrants/Transfers
  - c. Reports:
    - 1). Scheduled reports:
      - Superintendent's Mid-Cycle Evaluation – W. Sapelli
  - 2). Subcommittee Updates
11. New Business:
  - a. SCR-15-06, Approval of use of the Agawam Junior High School auditorium for a dance recital on June 20, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. by the Mary Ann Studio of Dance
12. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
13. Adjournment

## K of C schedules blood drive

The Knights of Columbus will hold a blood drive to benefit Mercy Medical Center's blood bank, Tuesday, March 10, from 2 to 6 p.m. at St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For more information, call 413-786-3091.

## Senior Center Friends to host dinner

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center will host a corned beef and cabbage dinner on Tuesday, March 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the senior center, 954 Main St.

There was a misprint of the ticket price in the Senior Center newsletter. The correct price for the dinner is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. To purchase tickets, call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440 or the Senior Center at 413-821-0605. There will be a raffle drawing for \$100 worth of scratch tickets. The chances are \$5 each.

There will be an opportunity to buy take-out dinners. At the time of ticket purchase, indicate if it is to-go and the chef will have the meal ready for pick-up.

## Pasta dinner to benefit AHS cheerleaders

The Agawam High School varsity cheerleaders will host a pasta dinner fundraiser at Take 5 Restaurant, 944 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, on Monday, March 9, to raise money for new uniforms. Seatings will be at 5:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.

The dinner will include a buffet of chicken franchise, ziti and meatballs, salad, rolls, dessert, and more. There will also be a cash bar.

Tickets, which are \$15 each, are available through the AHS cheerleaders or at the door the night of the event. The evening will also include a 50-50 door prize raffle and raffle baskets valued at more than \$200 each.

## Area girls invited 'meet and greet' Agawam colleen

There will be a "Colleen Meet and Greet" with the 2015 Agawam Colleen and court members on Sunday, March 15, from 1 to 3 p.m. at Cooper's, 161 Main St., Agawam. All young lassies are invited to meet the Colleen and court for a photo opportunity. Tea, juice and cookies will be served. The Agawam St. Patrick Colleen Committee will provide the little girls with a crown, bouquet of green carnations and Irish wrap to wear for the photo.

**Captain Charles Leonard House**



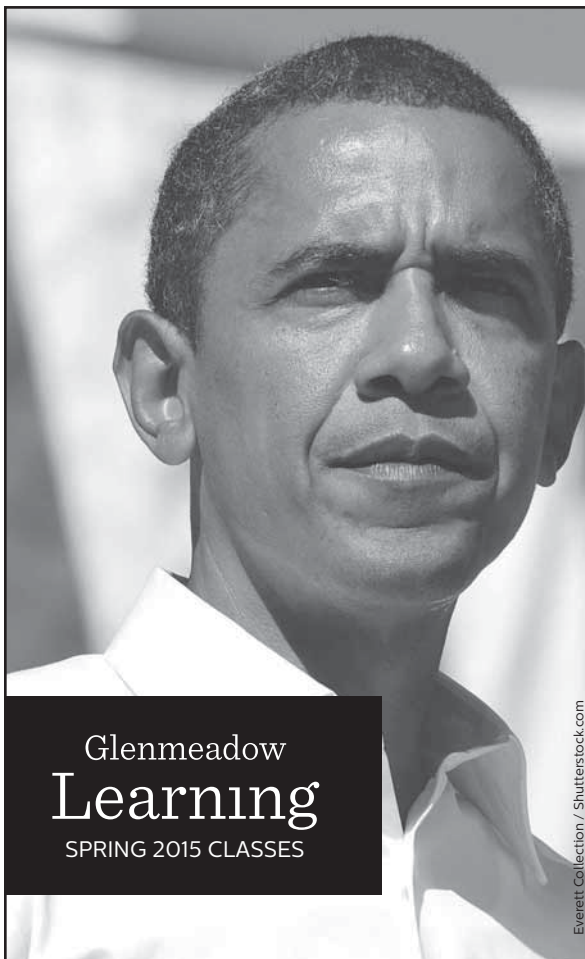
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### Presidential Primer: A Review of the Obama Administration

Tuesday, March 10, 10 a.m.–noon  
The Country Club of Wilbraham  
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President Barack Obama has come under fire repeatedly during his administration, as all presidents do. Don Robinson, a retired Smith College professor whose scholarly work focuses on American constitutional history, will put the Obama administration into perspective against a backdrop of U.S. history, the Constitution and past presidencies.

Programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are required. To enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail

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## VESTS ■ from page 1

and build a functional personal flotation device — more commonly known as a life vest — from household materials.

The “Innovative PFD Challenge” was the collaborative brainchild of Jerome Zolobkowski, a STEM teacher, and Amy Marchacos, a physical education teacher. They combined Zolobkowski’s engineering design experience with Marchacos’ knowledge of water safety and boats.

“For years, Principal Norm Robbins wanted us to utilize the pool for an academic challenge or activity — and we did that with this project,” said Marchacos.

Added Zolobkowski, “I’m always trying to make connections with other teachers outside the science area to create a collaborative and enriching experience for students. It can be a daunting task sometimes — but this project showed that it can provide some great lessons and experiences for kids.”

Marchacos and Zolobkowski merged two classes into one large class that met 42 minutes each day for six days in December. Students first discussed buoyancy, then designed and built aluminum-foil boats to learn about the effects of buoyancy and density.

The next step involved researching PFD designs on the Internet and brainstorming what type of materials they could find at home to make PFDs.

“We didn’t want them to have to go out and buy any of these materials,” said Marchacos.



Using common household materials, such as duct tape, eighth graders (from left) Matthew Liimatainen, Imani Barbour, Ashley Ugolini and Abdullah Aydah made a life vest. They were one of six teams comprised of four students each that designed, built, and then tested them in the AJHS pool. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## Putting vests to the test

Once teams had designed and built their PFDs, it was time to put them to the test. Students jumped into the pool wearing their PFDs to determine which ones would sink or float.

“The goal was to build a PFD so kids could float without touching the bottom of the pool,” said Zolobkowski.

Teams were scored on function as well as the appearance of the PFD — did it have an “interesting” look.

“We had limited time to design, build, and test the PFDs — so students had to squeeze this project in with other activities,” said Zolobkowski.

Some designs kept students afloat, but did not function as well as they could have if the design had been better. One Styrofoam PFD kept students afloat, but its straps interfered with the user.

“It needed modifications,” said Zolobkowski. “That’s why we wanted students to actually test their designs. Part of the engineering design process is learning what works and what doesn’t work by testing.”

## A fun challenge

Juliet Burbank said she and her classmates had fun learning how the engineering design process is used to make products.

“It was definitely interesting — it helped us learn something new and different,” she said. “We all had some interesting and great ideas, plus it challenged us by getting us out of our comfort zone.”

Bringing material from home to make



STEM teacher Jerome Zolobkowski (second right) gives some last-minute advice to students Jakob Lanski, Veniamin “Ben” Iovenco, Imani Barbour, Alexandra Humphries, Noah Rivera and Adam Krafeik as they prepare to test their life vests in the AJHS pool.

the life vest was tougher than Madison O’Connell anticipated.

“We had to find things that float, so it wasn’t as easy as I thought,” he said. “But I got to work with new kids from another class and learned a new vocabulary.”

Added Ashley Ugolini, “Not only did we have to think outside the box, but we also had to learn what it takes to make a life vest functional.”

Alexandra Humphries said she enjoyed the hands-on project: “It was fun to make the life vest, then test it to see if it worked or didn’t work.”

Ben Iovenco added that even if the PFD failed, there was still a sense of accomplishment.

“It was useful to learn why the life vest floated or didn’t float,” Iovenco said. “It was a fun way to learn by building something instead of just reading about it in books.”

## Prototype lesson

Zolobkowski said it was “awesome” to combine two learning disciplines.

“It showed kids that they aren’t just ‘island hopping’ between classes all day — that there’s a connection and some synergy with what they’re learning in school,” he said. “It was a positive experience for me as well — anything new helps me grow as a teacher.”

Marchacos said the best part of the project for her was watching students work enthusiastically to apply what they



Jakob Lanski shows off a life vest that he and three other students created using soda bottles, duct tape, and Styrofoam.

had learned in the classroom to actually using the life vests in the pool.

“Seeing their proud faces on testing day made all of their hard work worthwhile for them,” she said.

Zolobkowski said the challenge was “a great way to show that anybody can design and build something useful to save a life.” He and Marchacos — who shared their project at a recent School Committee meeting — are already thinking about a project for next year.

“This was a prototype project, so it’s only the beginning,” he said, adding that they may do the same project or something different. “We’re also ‘floating’ the idea of having students build functional cardboard canoes and then testing them by racing the canoes in the pool.”

## CHAMBER ■ from page 1

senting Agawam and West Springfield — state Sens. Donald Humason Jr. and James Welch, and state Reps. Nicholas Boldyga and Michael Finn — attended the West of the River Chamber of Commerce event, as did the mayors of both towns.

Welch and Finn, both Democrats from West Springfield, took issue with Palange’s viewpoint. Welch said he sees Obamacare, and the health care mandate that began with a Massachusetts state law almost a decade ago, as a positive step for society.

“It’s been a shift since 2005 to a more fair system,” Welch said. He said he would gladly “take the blame” for more people having health coverage.

Palange said he recently had an employee leave for health reasons and discover that as an unemployed person, he could get a state-subsidized health plan at a fraction of what he paid for his employer-sponsored health plan.

“We need to do something to encourage people to work, not stay home and collect,” Palange said.

Responded Welch: “I don’t think anyone in the Legislature sits there and tries to come up with a program to incentivize people to stay home.”

John Winkler, president of Six Flags New England in Agawam, said even his organization — with much higher revenues and many more employees — is worried about all the changes in employment law, as well as rising electricity rates. He described the increased costs as a “freight train coming all at once” this year.

“It’s not just a small business issue,” said Winkler. “We have to do better at our business, just to break even.”

Humason, a Republican from Westfield, responded to another of Palange’s concerns, a perceived decline in the quality of customer service at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. He said Gov. Charlie Baker has “plans for the Registry, and it’s going to be big.”

In response to a question about uncertainty in how the sick leave referendum would be implemented, Finn said the state attorney general is looking at it now. He said the law would have been clearer if it had been debated and passed by the state Legislature.

“Legislating by ballot initiative is never a good idea,” he said.

The Legislative Breakfast was hosted by the West of the River Chamber of Commerce at Storowton Tavern, at the Eastern States Exposition grounds in West Springfield. Springfield political consultant Tony Cignoli served as master of ceremonies.

## Bridge, road work discussed

Before the question-and-answer session, each of the four legislators and two mayors gave an update on their priorities for the coming year. Both Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen and West Springfield Mayor Edward Sullivan spoke about planned improvements along the length of the Memorial Avenue (Route 147) corridor. Sullivan said Memorial Avenue, including the rotary, will be rebuilt over the next couple years; Cohen said a replacement for the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge, which carries Route 147 over the Westfield River between the two towns, is on the state’s funding list for fiscal 2017.

Cohen also mentioned that the state plans to fund improvements along the length of Route 187 in Agawam — North



Lynn Ostrowski of Health New England addresses the West of the River Chamber of Commerce on Feb. 25 in West Springfield. Seated at the dais, from left, are mayors Edward Sullivan and Richard Cohen, and state legislators Michael Finn, Nicholas Boldyga, James Welch and Donald Humason Jr. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

and South Westfield Street, including the intersection at Feeding Hills Center — in fiscal 2017.

## Budgets and electric bills

Boldyga, a Republican from Southwick, told the audience that his immediate goal, working with the new governor, is to plug “an \$800 million budget deficit left by the previous administration.” He added that the state budget was \$30 billion when he was first elected, four years ago, and is now \$36 billion, a rate of growth that he called “unsustainable.”

Boldyga said he is suffering alongside his constituents from high energy bills, but the only way to bring down the cost of elec-

tricity is to expand the natural gas pipeline infrastructure.

Humason, in his comments, praised his colleague Welch and the bipartisanship of the Western Massachusetts delegation to Beacon Hill, which includes the new Senate president, Stanley Rosenberg.

“At the end of the day, it’s ‘us’ in Western Mass., ‘them’ in Boston,” Humason said. “The Senate president, one of the power three on Beacon Hill, is from Western Mass. We’re doing our part to remind him that there’s more to Western Mass. than Amherst and Northampton, and he’s doing his part to remind people that there’s more to Massachusetts than Eastern Mass.”



# Public Safety

## POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 340 calls for service from Feb. 23 to March 2. The department made seven arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

### Tuesday, Feb. 24

Scott D. Papillon, 45, of 23 Suffield St., Apt. 39, Agawam, was arrested for domestic assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, and intimidating a witness.

### Wednesday, Feb. 25

Scott D. Papillon, 45, of 23 Suffield St. Apt. 39, Agawam, was arrested for domestic assault and battery, intimidating a witness, resisting arrest, and assault and battery on a police officer.  
Lukas William Bromley, 24, 321 School St., Agawam,

was arrested on a charge of possession of a Class A drug.

### Monday, March 2

A juvenile from Feeding Hills was arrested on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.  
A juvenile from Feeding Hills was arrested on charges of violation of an abuse prevention order and malicious destruction of property over \$250.  
Bryan J. Shannahan, 25, of 222 Exchange St., Apt. 1, Chicopee, was arrested on four default warrants for failure to appear, shoplifting over \$100 by concealing merchandise, arrestee furnishing false name and Social Security number.  
Deborah Marie Laws, 46, of 397 N. Westfield St., Apt. 18, Feeding Hills, was arrested on charges of assault and battery and resisting arrest.

## FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 74 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Feb. 24 to March 2.

On Feb. 24 at 12:43 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street for smoke or odor removal.  
On Feb. 24 at 1:27 p.m., the department responded to Silver Street for building fire.  
On Feb. 25 at 12:13 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for public service.  
On Feb. 26 at 9:51 a.m., the department responded to Logan Place for gas leak (natural gas or LPG).  
On Feb. 26 at 11:23 a.m., the department responded to Florida Drive for public service.  
On Feb. 26 at 12:14 p.m., the department responded to Annable Street for gas leak (natural gas or LPG).  
On Feb. 26 at 4:27 p.m., the department responded to Valley Brook Road for good intent call, other.  
On Feb. 27 at 2:05 a.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street to assist invalid.  
On Feb. 27 at 4:50 a.m., the department responded to Barry Street for smoke or odor removal.

On Feb. 27 at 9:22 a.m., the department responded to Poplar Street for steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke.  
On Feb. 27 at 9:23 a.m., the department responded to Barden Street for public service assistance, other.  
On Feb. 28 at 10:47 a.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive for public service.  
On Feb. 28 at 6:12 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.  
On March 1 at 8:42 a.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street to assist invalid.  
On March 1 at 2:12 p.m., the department responded to South Westfield Street to assist invalid.  
On March 1 at 5:34 p.m., the department responded to Route 5 for motor vehicle accident with injuries.  
On March 2 at 12:20 a.m., the department responded to Route 57 West for motor vehicle accident with injuries.  
On March 2 at 5:26 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

## Fundraiser to benefit Boys and Girls Club

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Boys and Girls Club of West Springfield, 615 Main St., will host its second annual “Open House” event fundraiser Saturday, March 7, from 6 to 10 p.m. Proceeds from the event will be used to help support the club and to provide financial aid to families in need, who are enrolled or wish to enroll in club programs.  
Tickets are \$25 per person in advance and \$30 at the door. The event will include catered food stations created by Mark Tansy of Partners Restaurant, beer tasting station sponsored by Williams Distributing, a heads-or-tails 50-50 raffle, cash bar, DJ music provided by Brian Fowler, a live auction, wine tasting station, valet parking

and much more.  
Auction items for this year’s event include Patriots tickets courtesy of Mike Gordon, two Red Sox tickets in the EMC Club provided by CheckWriters Payroll, a Springfield Falcons package, a private chef’s dinner for eight at Latitude Restaurant, four tickets to a Red Sox vs. Baltimore baseball game donated by Morrison Mahoney LLP. A special item from Hannoush Jewelers will highlight the live auction.  
Tickets are on sale now at the club and from any club board member.  
For more information about the event or club programs, call 413-736-1831 or visit [www.wsbgclub.org](http://www.wsbgclub.org).

## Lioness to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam Lioness Club will host a trip to Mohegan Sun on Sunday, March 15. Anyone interested in going is asked to be at the Agawam High School parking lot at noon. The bus will depart at 12:30 p.m., or sooner if everyone is present. The bus will arrive back at AHS at 8:30 p.m.  
The cost is \$30 per person, which in-

cludes bus driver’s tip, a \$15 food voucher and a \$15 free bet voucher. Proceeds from this trip will be used for the various charities the Agawam Lioness Club supports. The public is invited. Early reservations are encouraged, as seats are limited. For reservations, call Pat at 413-786-1782 or Rose at 413-786-5134.

## ‘Geek gal’ to present program on steampunk

Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe, a self-proclaimed “geek gal” who hails from the Springfield Library, will present a panel on steampunk called “The Intersection of Technology and Romance: Steampunk 101” on Monday, March 16, at 7 p.m.  
What exactly is steampunk? According to [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com), it is “... a subgenre of science fiction and fantasy featuring advanced machines and other technology

based on steam power of the 19th century and taking place in a recognizable historical period or fantasy world.”  
Hodge-Wetherbe will bring some steampunk pieces (props and clothing) for participants to try on after the program. To register for the program, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit [www.panelsbygeekgal.com](http://www.panelsbygeekgal.com).  
This event is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association.

## Seniors

## Notes from the Music Room

By Darcy Davis

The “Love Songs Concert” by the Agawam Senior Center Chorus will be a little different from past productions, which have been set up in the format of here is a love song, and here is another.  
The songs have been put in the order of telling a story and will not be done in-

dividually without stopping to take a bow after each one (but applause is welcome as things proceed).  
We hope that by having an evening performance as well as an afternoon one, many people who may have wanted to see a production in the past when it was only given in the afternoon will now have that opportunity.

## Agawam Senior Center

**Lunch Menu**  
**Monday, March 9:** Veal parmesan, pasta with extra sauce, peaches.  
**Tuesday, March 10:** Baked chicken Florentine, rice pilaf, peas and carrots, pudding.  
**Wednesday, March 11:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, diced pears.  
**Thursday, March 12:** Cheese omelet, low-sodium ham, hash browns, orange juice, cantaloupe.  
**Friday, March 13:** Corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots, Irish soda bread, chocolate mint brownies.  
**Calendar of Events**  
**Monday, March 9:** 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Free Insurance Seminar (Garden Room); 1 p.m., Bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.  
**Tuesday, March 10:** SHINE representative available (by appt.); 9 a.m., Exercise, Knitting Class, Sewing Class; 10 a.m., Chair Exercise, Computer

Tech Club Meets; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie (“Words & Music”); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4 p.m., Disability Commission Meeting; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.  
**Wednesday, March 11:** 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Ballroom Lessons, Scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 1 Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.  
**Thursday, March 12:** Free Tax Prep (by appointment only); 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Free Blood Pressure Check, Pitch, Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6 p.m., Relay for Life Meeting (Garden Room); 6:30 p.m., Pitch, Evening Line Dancing.  
**Friday, March 13:** 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; 9:30 p.m., Tai Chi; 11:30 a.m., St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

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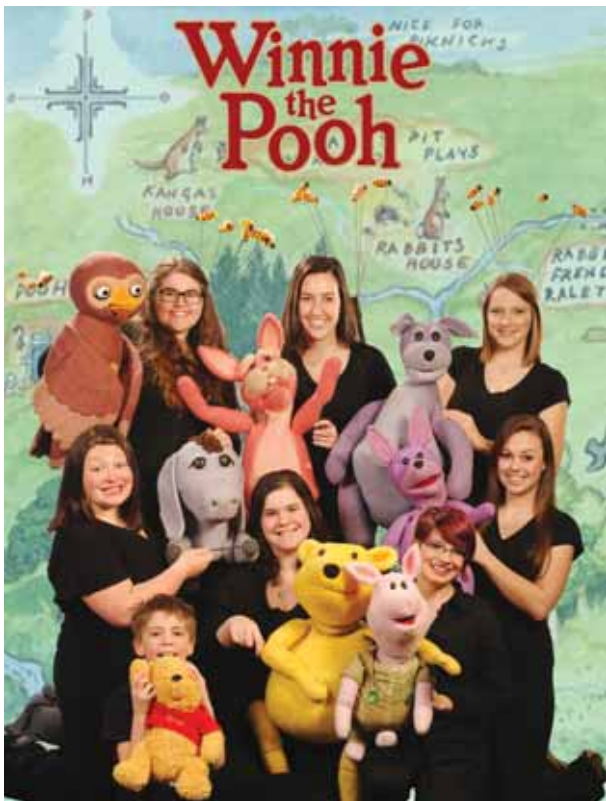
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Winnie the Pooh is coming to Longmeadow as a puppet show. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Winnie the Pooh comes to Bay Path

LONGMEADOW — Bay Path University presents Winnie the Pooh ... with puppets. Performances run Friday, March 20, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. in Mills Theatre, 588 Longmeadow St., Longmeadow. The production is 90 minutes long and features an arts and crafts corner and a post-show meet and greet with the characters. Tickets for the general public are \$12; \$8 for senior citizens; \$5 for children; and free for college students. For tickets, call 413-565-1307.

## AHS Band Parents to host Mohegan Sun trip

The Agawam High School Band Parents Association will host a bus trip to Mohegan Sun Casino Saturday, March 28. The bus will leave Agawam High School at 4 p.m. and will return to Agawam at approximately 11:45 p.m. Ticket price is \$30 per person and includes a \$15 food voucher and \$15 free bet. To make a reservation, email Jodi Albertson at msjodia@aol.com by March 13. Everyone 21 and older is invited. All proceeds to benefit the Agawam High School Band Program.

## ACC welcomes new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet Tuesday, March 17, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public. A great opportunity exists with the ACC for anyone that has an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

## Kids invited to sing, dance, imagine at the library

The Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., will host “Musical Imagination Adventure Family Concert” on Friday, March 20, at 11 a.m. Children from birth to age 5 will sing, dance and imagine with Cheryl Melody. Participants will meet her puppet, Shy Mousie, and become part of each story and song. With the ringing of the golden imagination bowl and the waving of the magic wand, children will become part of the characters living in the land of imagination.

## Giant tag sale at Agawam Congregational Church

Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., will host a two-day giant tag sale, Friday, March 27, and Saturday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. In addition to clothes and accessories, the tag sale will include toys and games, books, kitchen articles, household items and more. There will also be a bake sale. Vendors are welcome. For more information, call 413-786-7111. The public is welcome.

## Acrylic artist at March 11 meeting

The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans will meet Wednesday, March 11, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting, which will be held in the community room of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., will feature Loretta Medeiros, acrylic artist. Medeiros will demonstrate “Fun with Acrylics” using a very versatile water-based medium. The demonstration will focus on creating a background using a technique. Medeiros will paint a composition while explaining how to do the background technique and other techniques to complete the composition. She will also discuss different types of acrylics and painting surfaces. Guests are welcome.

## Garden Club to meet March 10

The Agawam Garden Club will meet Tuesday, March 10, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Pheasant Hill Village Community Room in Feeding Hills. Officers and members for the current year will be introduced, normal business will be conducted and annual dues of \$15 will be collected. A garden-related swap will follow. Attendees are asked to bring a hand tool, decorative pot, indoor plant or reference book and take one home. Refreshments will be served. Members and non-members are welcome.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

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- Fed
- A domed or vaulted recess
- Macaws
- Neck garment
- A billionth of an ohm
- Local area network
- Cleve. basketball hero
- Wounded & disfigured
- Civil Rights group
- Master of ceremonies
- Smallest artery branches
- Ref
- Exist
- Diagram of earth's surface
- SE Asian sarsaparilla soft drink
- Fire remains
- 3rd tone
- Before
- It breaks down lactose

- A waterproof raincoat
- Atomic #18
- NW Canadian territory
- Hindquarters
- Follows sigma
- Rural delivery
- Point that is one point N of due E
- Excels
- Berkus and Silver
- Famous for fables
- Philippine capital
- Meg Ryan's ex-husband
- Doleful
- Arugula genus
- Nursery verse
- The 7th Greek letter
- Container for shipping
- Charge for services
- Immature onion plant

**CLUES DOWN**

- Swedish statesman Olaf
- Baltic flat-bottomed boat (alt. sp.)
- Fingernail treatment
- Breezed through
- Check
- Stray
- Ancient computing devices
- Something cheerleaders wave
- The woman
- Ambulance rescue initials
- In a drowsy manner
- A set of type of one style
- Not completely closed
- No (Scottish)
- Microelectromechanical system
- Having the wind against the forward side
- Reestablish
- Khloe K's former husband
- Verse forms
- Places to sit
- Chilean pianist Claudio
- Rounds of poker
- Spanish be
- Sing and play for somebody
- Chemical symbol for gold
- Praying insects
- Israeli politician Abba
- 7th planet from the sun
- Br. plural of a penny
- Largest continent
- Distress signal
- Senate and People of Rome
- Fill with high spirits
- Egyptian statesman Anwar
- Non-verbal entertainer
- 12th calendar month (abbr.)
- A major division of geological time
- Ultrahigh frequency
- Yes vote

Answers on page 13

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# In the Classroom

## Rosie Robotics at Springfield tourney this Friday, Saturday

SPRINGFIELD — Agawam High School's Rosie Robotics team will compete against 32 other high school teams from across New England this Friday and Saturday at the MassMutual Center.

Spectators are welcome to attend the NE FIRST Pioneer Valley District Event, which will be open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, March 6, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 7, at the MassMutual Center, 1277 Main St., Springfield. Admission is free.

Speakers at the event will include Jim Kammerer, general manager of space systems at UTC Aerospace Systems in Windsor Locks, Conn., and engineering mentor for Rosie Robotics; and FIRST National Advisor Woodie Flowers.

This is the first formal competition for this year's robotics challenge, "Recycle Rush," in which student-designed and -built robots will test their skills at recycling-themed tasks such as picking up litter and stacking totes. The theme was announced in January, and students have been designing their robots since then. Team alliances that win at the Pioneer Valley event will participate in the NE FIRST New England Championship at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester on April 9-11. Winners of that championship will qualify to participate in the FIRST World Competition April 22-25 at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis.

A group of middle schoolers from Roberta Doering School will take a field trip to Friday's session, according to adult mentor Lynne Henry. Students were selected to participate in that field trip based on essays describing their interest in robotics and technology.

Nearby schools participating in the competition include Northampton High School and Connecticut high schools in Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, South Windsor, West Hartford, Windsor and Windsor Locks. Other participants include schools elsewhere in Connecticut, Eastern and Central Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey and Vermont.

The presenting sponsor for the NE FIRST 2015 season is United Technologies. Regional sponsors are BAE Systems, Northeast Utilities Foundation, ebm-papst, Fairchild Semiconductor and Texas Instruments. District event sponsors are Fidelity Investments, National Grid, Textron, Analog Devices, PTC, BostonScientific, MIT Draper Laboratory, MIT Lincoln Laboratory, U.S. Air Force, Travelers and the Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) was founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology.

## Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

**College Acceptances:** Joe Harnois: Holyoke Community College; Andre Bernatchez: Holyoke Community College; Diana Huynh: Western New England University, University of St. Joseph's Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, Mass. College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences, UMass Amherst, UMass Dartmouth, Boston University; Samantha Howe: Katrina Laz: Springfield College, Philadelphia University; Gio Russo: Western New England University; James Karl-Morin: UMass Dartmouth; Jamie Drew: U.S. Army; Cassandra Land: Saint Anselm College.

**Seniors:** Please let Mrs. Tirone in the counseling office know what college/university you have been accepted into.

**STCC STEM Academy:** Open to seniors with a minimum 2.00 GPA who are interested in pursuing a STEM career (science, technology, engineering or math field) and plan on attending STCC in the fall. This academy begins in the summer

and is free for accepted participants. Program participants earn a \$400 stipend, free college courses, attend free field trips to learn more about STEM careers, hear from STEM experts and participate in hands-on activities with some of the STEM professors. Interested applicants must submit a STCC admissions application for the fall and a STEM Starter Academy application. The STEM Starter Academy application is available at [www.stcc.edu/stemacademy/](http://www.stcc.edu/stemacademy/). Students must submit both applications by May 1.

**Free Financial Aid Application Assistance for Mass. Residents:** American Student Assistance College Planning Centers offer free assistance with completing financial aid application at centers and over the phone by calling 877-332-4348. Visit [www.asa.org/plan](http://www.asa.org/plan) for more information.

**Scholarships:** See your counselor for more information or an application.

## Business students



The West of the River Chamber of Commerce, at its Feb. 25 Legislative Breakfast at Storow-ton Tavern, honored the Agawam and West Springfield high school students who participated in its inaugural mentoring program this year. Pictured, back row, left to right, are Chamber President John Weiss; Emrakh Kasimov, Selma Masic and Rudi Spano of West Springfield, Chris Gage of Agawam, Austin Shea of West Springfield and West Springfield guidance counselor Dina Sibilia. In the front row, left to right, are Kate Bergeron and Lilia Ulinici of West Springfield, Meagan Arslanian, Victoria Baranov and Mike Largay of Agawam, Patricia Parker-Flores of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative and Lisa Sheehan of Agawam High School. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

## School Lunch

### AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

### AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, March 9: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.  
Tuesday, March 10: French toast stix, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice cup.  
Wednesday, March 11: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, seasoned corn, assorted fruit, Dole Fruit Push Up.  
Thursday, March 12: Barbeque chicken patty sandwich, onion rings, southern corn salad, fresh and chilled fruit.  
Friday, March 13: Stuffed crust cheese pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

### ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, March 9: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.  
Tuesday, March 10: French toast stix, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice cup.  
Wednesday, March 11: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, seasoned corn, assorted fruit, Dole Fruit Push Up.  
Thursday, March 12: Barbeque chicken patty sandwich, onion rings, southern corn salad, ice cream sandwich, chilled fruit.  
Friday, March 13: Stuffed crust cheese pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

ad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

### AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, March 9: Chicken nuggets with dipping sauce, Tater Tots, seasoned carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.  
Tuesday, March 10: French toast stix, hash browns, pork sausage links, diced peach cup, orange juice cup.  
Wednesday, March 11: Ziti with meat sauce, whole-wheat breadstick, seasoned corn, assorted fruit, Dole Fruit Push Up.  
Thursday, March 12: Barbeque chicken patty sandwich, onion rings, southern corn salad, ice cream sandwich, chilled fruit.  
Friday, March 13: Stuffed crust cheese pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

### ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, March 9: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.  
Tuesday, March 10: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Nutri-Grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.  
Wednesday, March 11: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.  
Thursday, March 12: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, chilled juice.  
Friday, March 13: Mini chocolate chip pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent low-fat milk, chilled juice.

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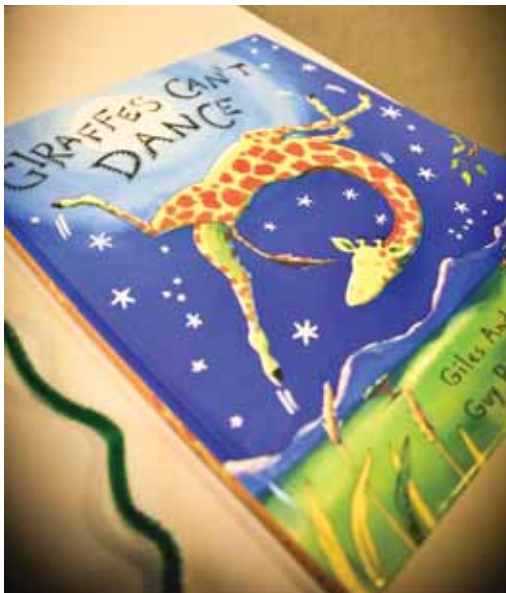
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# Look alive!



Wendy Rua gets a kick out of the performance. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS  
PHOTOS BY KIMBERLY HATCH



The performance included a reading from "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andreae, illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees.



Jessica Melanson and her children, Oliver, 1 and Annika, 3 get lost in the story.



Children and parents enjoy the hour long public event.



Wide-eyed Roxy Morrison, 8, enjoys Tony Jones' portrayal of a giraffe.



Axel Cruz, left, and Tony Jones, right, entertain and interact with the audience.



Tony Jones, left, and Axel Cruz, right, of Enchanted Circle Theater of Holyoke, lead the group in a motivational, interactive, confidence boosting activity.



Sisters Roxy, 8, (left) and Valery Morrison, 4, let loose during "Reading Alive," an interactive literacy workshop Monday night presented by the Agawam Public Library and Agawam Family & Community Program.



Local Cub Scouts pose for a photo with the actors.



Morgan Platten, 6 participates in an impromptu routine at "Reading Alive," held March 2.





The veterans housing project on South Westfield Street is waiting for additional grant funding, but the developer hopes to begin construction and renovations later this year. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

**SOLDIER ■ from page 1**

throughout the region, and is also working on another facility in Chicopee. In his letter to Cohen, Downing went on to state Soldier On has asked DHCD to increase its grant, “but discussions were delayed due to the transition from Governor Patrick to the Governor Baker administration.”

Downing said final construction documents have already been processed and the construction team, BBL Construction of Albany, N.Y., has guaranteed a maximum price contract, locking in what the project will cost. He told the mayor that he expects the closing process to start next month and Soldier On will then seek a building permit from the town of Agawam. Downing said construction and renovation of the building will likely take about a year.

Jim Scalise of SK Designs, the architects on the project, came in front of the Planning Board in July 2014 and requested the changes, which will include the annex, and the relocation of seven units from the top floor.

“The changes that were requested by Mass. Historical have resulted in new cost estimates for re-purposing the building,” Scalise said. “Now it is overbudget, the way the plan stands.”

The single-story annex proposed will be 56 feet by 56 feet and will be attached to the main building with a covered walkway. The annex will not be visible from the road and will not detract from its current ap-

pearance, Scalise emphasized.

Seven of the 12 units that would have been on the uppermost level of the building will be relocated throughout the rest of the building. Scalise said one unit will be added to the second level, two to the lowest level, two to the annex building, and two of them were removed from the plan, making it a 52-unit complex.

Despite having town approvals, the building — which was most recently used as a Hampden County police academy — has remained vacant and boarded up.

City Councilor Cecilia Calabrese was driving by the area one day and observed the building closed up without activity. She queried the town administration about the status of the project.

“I just think it is a real shame that it has been two years since they originally got a permit and the project has not been started yet,” said Calabrese. She went on to say she appreciates the site will be used for veteran housing, but thought the site might have been more productive being used for educational purposes.

Downing’s letter to the mayor predicts that veterans could begin moving in to the building in summer 2016.

Downing did not return calls seeking comment on the status of the project budget, including updated figures. In 2013, the budget was projected at about \$12 million. It will be paid for with a combination of nonprofit funding as well as state and federal grants.



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# SPORTS

HOCKEY

## Brownies blow past Lancers

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
*Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – It was not even a contest once the Brownies scored two goals in about 6 seconds during the first period.

After grabbing a 2-0 lead, the Brownies just kept on scoring and No. 2 Agawam defeated No. 3 Longmeadow in the semifinals of the Western Massachusetts Division 3 Tournament 7-0 last Thursday night at Olympia Ice Center.

Agawam faces Westfield Thursday in a rematch of last year's final (see related article).

The Brownies jumped out to a 2-0 lead with 4:42 left in the first period.


Six seconds before that point, a scrum in front of the net. Niko Passerini would circle around the goal and pass to Cory Pfau. With players from both teams in front of the net, Pfau delivered a low shot that found its way into the right corner to make it 1-0.

Coming off the ensuing faceoff, Cam Rivest sent a pass to Seamus Curran, and Curran sent a sniper for a wrist shot into the second goal for the Brownies.

Following that goal, the Brownies started to set a physical pace, engaging in a series of serious checks against Lancers and trying to gain a mental advantage.

"It was a physical game and we tried to maintain the pace at that point," said Agawam coach Rich Feeley.

In the second period, Agawam got their third goal of the game during a scrum in front of the net while on a power



Agawam's Elijah Bard fights for possession of the puck. Bard scored two goals in Agawam's semifinal win over Longmeadow. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Niko Passerini takes a wrist shot from the left side.



Agawam players fight for possession of the puck.

HOCKEY

## Brownies set to face Westfield in finals

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – The rematch is set, and on paper, the Agawam hockey team has a huge edge going into the Western Massachusetts Division 3 Championship game Thursday at 8:30 p.m. at Olympia Ice Center.

The Brownies opponent, No. 1 Westfield, only has one advantage over Agawam, and that is in big game wins.

Last year, Westfield won the one game that really counts.

Agawam entered Division 3 and Berry Division last season. The Brownies had been on an upward trend for the past several years, and finally overcame the hump when they defeated South

Hadley to capture the Division 3A Championship, and went on to score a win in the state championship game.

Further, Agawam had not been defeated in the Fay Division in more than four years, and a move up to the Division 3 heavy Berry Division was exactly what Agawam coach Rich Feeley wanted for his growing team.

The Brownies were also moved into Division 3 and won the Berry Division last year. Agawam even scored two wins over Westfield and earned the number one seed in the tournament.

But Westfield made their move then as they defeated Agawam 6-4 in a game that was back and forth for much of the night before Westfield grabbed 5-4 lead late in the

game. Agawam tried in vain, including removing the goalie, but Westfield was able to score the insurance goal and nailed down another Division 3 championship.

Agawam is now searching for their first championship since joining the Division 3 ranks.

They have had an excellent season and have already survived one major test by beating Longmeadow in the semifinals.

Feeley spent part of his night at Olympia after Agawam's win over Longmeadow watching Westfield play Minnechaug in the other semifinal. Despite a couple of missing players on their roster, Feeley says Westfield is still going to be very difficult to defeat.

"They have a lot of talented

WRESTLING

## Basile ready to battle for New England crown

**By Gregory A. Scibelli**  
*Turley Publications Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM – Anthony Basile was looking to qualify for a spot in the New England tournament after an injury forced him to miss the competition last year.

Basile not only qualified for the tournament this weekend, but he was very close to capturing an all-state individual title for the first time in his career last weekend in the all-state tournament at Salem High School.

Now, Basile will represent Agawam wrestling in the New England Tournament at North Andover High School in Massa-

chusetts. He will compete at 145 pounds and go up against the best wrestlers in his weight class from Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Basile got all the way to the all-state finals. He went up against Nashoba Regional High School's Ronan Ball and lost a 16-4 decision. It is possible he could meet Ball again this weekend. The top six in each weight class qualified for the New England Tournament.

Basile also nailed down another major achievement during the semifinals, beating Catholic



# Sports

## SEMIS ■ from page 12

play. After about three shots, Curran got a backhand to go in the goal to make it 3-0.

On another power play, Chris Breault sent a pass to Elijah Bard, who was waiting on the left side of the goal. Bard sent the puck into the open side of the goal to make it 4-0.

With 1:47 left in the second, Agawam scored again with power play goal. Breault was given credit for the goal, getting the last touch in a scramble in front of the net.

With time waning in the second period, Anthony Passerini would pick up a loose puck and slips it into the left side of the net.

Last in the third period, Bard scored for the second time in the game, nailing a wrist shot just under the crossbar to make it 7-0.

Goalie Connor McAnanama scored the shutout for the Brownies. He made 23 saves on all 23 Longmeadow shots.

"It was a great feeling," he said. "My defense did a really good job helping me out."

Agawam's defense overcame two situations where they played shorthanded 5-on-3 for 90 seconds.

Agawam played two much closer games against Longmeadow, a win and a tie, this season. Feeley said it simply came down to Agawam doing a better job on executing the game plan.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

## FINALS ■ from page 12

players and they know how to win," said Feeley.

It comes down to execution for the Brownies as they learned against Longmeadow.

Feeley said if the Brownies are able to execute their game plan, they will be able to be successful.

Agawam also will relay on their depth. The Brownies trot out three different lines. Every single line has threats to score, and they come from both offense and defense. Among the top scorers for Agawam this season area Seamus Curran, Joe Mercadante, and Chris Breault.

Elijah Bard also had 10 goals this season, fourth on the team, and has been used often as a "specialist," entering the ice and coming up with clutch goals on specific plays. Bard had a key goal against Westfield on Jan. 30. He also scored twice against Longmeadow last week.

## BASILE ■ from page 12

Memorial wrestler Pat Ferozco for his 100th career victory. The victory was significant in that Basile accomplished the feat with only three years of wrestling under his belt. Basile lost his entire sophomore year due to a torn ACL suffered in a football game.

The senior grappler said the entire experience was excellent, and he was happy to come out healthy.

"My experience this year was something I will always remember," said Basile. "Last year going in I just wanted to place at the tournament and when I injured my shoulder it became so much harder to do that. But going in this year I went to win it all."

"Being healthy really helped me reach some of my goals even though I did not come out on top, getting my 100th career win in overtime in the semifinals made it really special being that I only had three years and my older brother was there to share it with me."

Basile says he will be going all out to try and get some wins this weekend.

"Coach Ramos and I were talking all weekend," said Basile. "He is really stressing for me to leave everything on the map. I can't hold back if I want to reach my goals."

Basile said he will likely be facing a lot of wrestlers he has never seen before. He did say he had some familiarity with a couple of Connecticut wrestlers from participating in a tournament in Guilford earlier this season. He suffered three came from one Connecticut wrestler. Basile is not worried.

"I have grown a lot as a wrestler this season and hopefully I get another chance at him," said Basile.

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## COLLEGE NOTES

### Ritter helps out Wentworth

AUBURNDALE - Wentworth men's volleyball player and Feeding Hills resident Colin Ritter had 20 assists in a 3-0 loss to Lasell on Thursday, Feb. 26.

### Robidoux delivers for Nighthawks

BOSTON - Newbury men's volleyball player and Agawam native Wade Robidoux had seven kills in a 3-0 loss to Wentworth on Saturday, Feb. 28.

### Keeley gets points in pair of Pride wins

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield College women's lacrosse player and Agawam resident Colleen Keeley picked up a goal and an assist in a 19-1 win over Western New England on Wednesday, Feb. 25.

She assisted on the game's first goal and then scored her first tally of the season with 29:16 left in the second half.

### Rackliffe finishes in double figures

WESTFIELD - Framingham State women's basketball player and Feeding Hills native Alycia Rackliffe finished with 12 points in a 79-65 loss to Westfield State on Thursday, Feb. 26.

Please recycle  
this newspaper



Agawam High School has some of the region's best student hockey fans, who come out in droves to support their home team at almost every game throughout the season. The Brownies play for the Western Mass. Division III championship tonight. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



## FANS ■ from page 1

watching his older brother, Agawam goalie Devin Basile, play. Devin Basile had a great career and brother Chris enjoyed seeing all of his games. Chris Basile still goes up to UMass-Amherst to see his brother play.

"The environment is always nuts," said Basile. "The fans are always cheering and they are loud."

Basile, for the past four years, has tried to help lead Agawam High School's cheering section at Olympia Ice Center in the same direction.

Ice hockey is a sport that has brought Agawam a lot of success, and Basile has made sure his friends and classmates have had a lot of support. He's not just a face in the crowd. He organizes the student fans — where where and when they will gather for a game, what cheers and chants they'll employ, from the traditional to the bizarre to the ridiculous.

"It's not something you sign up for or get elected to do," said Basile. "It's just something you step up and you do."

At Agawam hockey's semifinal win last Thursday night against Longmeadow, Basile was in the center of the crowd, cheering on the Brownies as they trounced the Lancers 7-0. Even with a huge lead, Basile made sure the crowd was hot the entire night.

"These are a great group of guys [the hockey team] and we should support our teams," said Basile.

Jason Carleton, a friend of Basile's and another supporter of Agawam hockey, dressed up in a black suit with an orange tie. He comes out to support his friends because they were there for him.

"I play football and every Friday night the hockey players were out there to support me," said Carleton. "I have got to return the favor."

Basile said another big reason many of Agawam's stu-

dents come support the team is for coach Rich Feeley. Feeley teaches in the social studies department at the high school and is highly regarded by many of the students.

Feeley said he appreciates the support from his students, but also believes the diversity of his roster draws out a lot of different fans.

"We have players on our teams from every class, freshmen through seniors," said Feeley. "And they play in the game. Every one of those players on the team has friends who come out and watch them. The support is really great and has been for a lot of years."

Basile says the student fan group tries to do different things to show unity and support.

"Sometimes we have 'black outs' where we wear all black," said Basile. "We have also had 'white outs' and dressed in red, white, and blue." Basile will be graduating from high school this year, but says he is confident that his friend, Johnny Kelly, and many other supportive fans, will keep Agawam's fan section strong for years to come.

Athletic Director David Stratton says Agawam has very passionate fans and for the most part, they are among those that act appropriately during games. The fact Agawam has been successful in recent years is also a really big help.

"Everyone loves to cheer for a winner," said Stratton.

That's what he hopes to be doing when Agawam battles with Westfield tonight, March 5, for the Western Massachusetts Division III Championship.



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# Legals

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Steven E. MacCormack** and **Julie E. MacCormack** to United Bank f/k/a Rockville Bank, said mortgage being dated august 18, 2005, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 15277, Page 104, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 2, 2015, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely Lot on Barry Street, Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain piece or parcel of land with all buildings and improvements thereon, located partially in the Town of Suffield, County of Hartford and State of Connecticut, and partially in the Town of Agawam, Hampden County and State of Massachusetts, as shown on a map or plan entitled, "PROPERTY SURVEY PREPARED FOR STEVEN MacCORMACK REAR HALLIDAY AVENUE SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT Alford ASSOCIATES, INC. CIVIL ENGINEERS WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT WILSON M. ALFORD, JR., P.E. & L.S. DATE: FEDRUARY 16, 2004 SCALE 1 IN. = 100 FT. REVISED 4-15-04 and 4-21-04," which map or plan is on file in the Town Clerk's Office in the Town of Suffield, Connecticut, and the Hampden County Registry of Deeds. Plan Book 388, Page 70.

See Book 15277, Page 101 for Deed Reference and Book 15277, Page 104.

Said premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax title, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be.

No representations, express or implied, are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises which will be sold "as is".

The successful high bidder will be responsible for paying the Massachusetts State Documentary Tax Stamps, all closing costs and all recording fees.

TERMS OF SALE: The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer's check or certified check in the amount of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000.00) at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify as a bidder (the present holder of the mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held by the Mortgagee. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer's check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale shall be required

to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/or to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of the sale.

The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

United Bank  
f/k/a Rockville Bank,  
Present Holder  
of said Mortgage  
By **Francis R. Mirkin**,  
Its Attorney  
BACON WILSON, P.C.  
33 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
3/5,3/12,3/19/15

### Town of Agawam LEGAL AD

The Town of Agawam is accepting proposals for the maintenance of the Agawam portion of the Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway and Pynchon Point Park parking lot landscaping for calendar year 2015. The path is 1.75 miles long and runs along the Connecticut River on the east side of River Road. Pynchon Point Park is located at the north end of River Road. The successful bidder shall be required to execute a contract with the Town of Agawam. For a copy of the Request for Proposals and contract, please contact the Agawam Planning Office at 786-0400, extension 8738. Proposals shall be submitted to the Agawam Planning Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, by **April 1, 2015**.

PER ORDER OF:  
Office of Planning &  
Community Development  
3/5,3/12/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P0305EA  
Estate of: Adeline Candido  
Date of Death: 10/10/2002**

## CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 03/27/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 27, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/5/15

## AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Dore for property located on Silver Street.

By Order of **Henry A. Kozloski**, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation  
Commission  
3/5/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-8600  
Docket No.  
HD15P0313EA  
Estate of:  
Frank Robert Heiden  
Also Known As:  
Frank R. Heiden  
Date of Death:  
February 4, 2015  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**  
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Cory R. Heiden** of Feeding

Hills MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Cory R. Heiden** of Feeding Hills MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
3/5/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P0311EA  
Estate of: Joseph A Cirillo  
Date of Death: 02/07/2004  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 03/27/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 27, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/5/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD15P0310EA  
Estate of: Louise Buckley  
Date of Death: 03/09/2001  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Dominic J Candido** of Palm Beach Gardens, FL be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 03/27/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 27, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/5/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-8600  
Docket No. HD15P0280EA  
Estate of:  
Susan Roberta Anderson  
Also Known As:  
Susan R. Anderson  
Date of Death: 12/25/14  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Richard A Anderson** of Feeding Hills MA.

**Richard A Anderson** of Feeding Hills MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being

administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
3/5/15

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD14P2166EA  
Estate of:  
Wanda Gertrude Sagan  
Date of Death: 06/06/2003  
CITATION ON  
PETITION FOR  
FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition has been filed by: **Janice A Sagan** of Agawam MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testacy and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that: **Janice A Sagan** of Agawam MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 03/18/2015.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 18, 2015  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
3/5/15



# Obituaries & Church News

## D. David Stratton 1933 – 2015

Donald David Stratton, loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away peacefully on Feb. 10, 2015, while vacationing in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Dave began his teaching career in the Chicopee public schools before transferring to the Springfield public school system. He taught at Buckingham Junior High School, Tech High School, Classical High School and Central High School, retiring in 1998.

Dave was a successful soccer and basketball coach for many years. One of his proudest moments was being inducted into the Springfield Public Schools Sports Hall of Fame in 2007.

Dave graduated from Tech High

School in 1952 and served four years in the U.S. Navy. He attended A.I.C. and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Miami and a master's degree from Springfield College.

He was predeceased by his parents, Paul and Louise Stratton, and his brothers, Richard and Dana. David leaves his beloved wife of 53 years, Rosemary (Massa) Stratton; his son, David and his wife Nicole; a daughter, Ellen Santore and her husband Michael and four cherished grandchildren, Danielle, Samantha, Michael and Elizabeth, whom he adored beyond words. He also leaves several nieces, nephews and extended family with whom he shared many happy



times. Special thanks to his sister-in-law, Pat Hall and all of his friends in Jamaica for their love and support.

Calling hours and a funeral home service were Tuesday, March 3, at Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home, 985 Main St., Agawam. Committal services with military honors were held in the Chapel at the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, 1390 Main St., Agawam. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in David's memory to the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center, 627 Cottage St., Springfield, MA 01104 or to the charity of one's choice. [www.forastiere.com](http://www.forastiere.com).

### Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

### DEATH NOTICES

**Fuller, Mae B.**  
Died Feb. 27, 2015  
Funeral March 3, 2015  
West Springfield Curran-Jones  
Funeral Home

**McManus, Ann H.**  
Died Feb. 27, 2015  
Funeral March 3, 2015  
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home  
Agawam

**Sparrow, Ronald B.**  
Died Feb. 25, 2015  
Funeral March 4, 2015  
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home  
Agawam

**Stratton, Donald D.**  
Died Feb. 10, 2015  
Funeral March 3, 2015  
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home  
Agawam

## News, upcoming events at Agawam Congregational

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home — a people to call family." Sunday service is at 10 a.m. with a children's message, church school fellowship and coffee hour following.

**Thursday mornings:** Playgroup, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Open to the public. The program follows the Agawam Public School schedule.

**Sunday, March 8:** 10 a.m., worship service with the installation of new church officers and board members, church school and coffee hour. 5 p.m., annual Nick and Marie Zucco Potluck Scholarship Supper.

**Sunday, March 15:** 10 a.m., wor-

ship service, church school and coffee hour.

**Monday, March 16:** 4 p.m., Loaves and Fishes meets.

**Saturday, March 21:** 7:30 a.m., Men's Ministry meeting at Bobbie J's.

**Sunday, March 22:** 10 a.m., worship service, church school and coffee hour.

**Monday, March 23:** 7 p.m., Women's Ministry meeting in friendship room.

**Wednesday, March 25:** 9 a.m., newsletter collation.

**Friday and Saturday, March 27-28:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Giant tag sale. Open to vendors for \$30 per table for the two-day event.

**Sunday, March 29:** Palm Sunday, choir Cantata, church school and coffee hour.

**Monday to Friday, March 30 to April 3:** Holy Week. Noon services and lunch at Bethany Assembly of God. Free and open to the public.

Pastor Greg E. Dawson and his wife, Rosemary, are available for prayer after the service. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until noon.

## Hymns, pie night of March 27

Hope Community Church, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host its Hymn & Pie Night on Friday, March 27, from 7 to 9 pm. Although primarily contemporary in their Sunday worship, each year Hope dusts off the hymnbooks to sing some old favorite hymns, after which the congregation gathers together to eat delicious pie. It's casual, inspirational and fun.

Participants are welcome to bring a pie to share, if possible, but it is not required.

For more information, visit the church Facebook page, "Hope Community Church Hymn & Pie Night 2015," the website, [www.hopechurchagawam.org](http://www.hopechurchagawam.org) or call Lou Kochanek, director of worship and the arts, at 413-885-4932.

## Business

### Sound Seal hires marketing manager

Sound Seal, a leading manufacturer of acoustical and noise control products serving the industrial, architectural, commercial and construction industries, announced Feb. 26 that it has hired Teri Douglas to serve as the distributor sales and marketing manager for its Impacta division of acoustical floor underlayments. In her new role at Agawam-based Sound Seal, Douglas will work directly with the Impacta distribution network to provide support for new business and marketing opportunities.

Douglas comes to Sound Seal with over 30 years of sales and marketing experience and channel management. She has held sales and marketing positions at several industry organizations, including the safety



Teri Douglas

division of Cyalume Technologies and Guitar Academy.

"Teri has been contributing significantly to the growth of the Impacta division on a part-time basis, so we are excited to welcome her as a full-time member of the Sound Seal team," said Dave Gilbert, general manager of Sound Seal. "We are confident that she will provide the key sales and marketing support that we need to

properly service our network of acoustical and noise control distributors."

Douglas joins the company following Sound Seal's recent expansion into the Midwest with the acquisition of Illinois-based Industrial Noise Control.

### Chamber connects Bridgeport National Bindery with management training

Bridgeport National Bindery Inc. recently received free management training through the West of the River Chamber of Commerce and a two-year state grant to improve efficiency.

By the end of April, five of the senior management team from the Silver Street-based book bindery will have participated and graduated from the Lean Training Program, "all at no cost to Bridgeport, only their time," said Michele Brennan, vice president of marketing and communications at Bridgeport.

National Training Associates, with the support of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce and Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, was recently awarded \$200,000 in grant funding to provide Western Massachusetts businesses with free access to

Lean Training Programs.

Funding for this program comes from the Regional Training Capacity Pilot which is funded by the Workforce Training Fund grant through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development. The grant program is administered by the Commonwealth Corporation.

From this experience, Bridgeport has been identified to receive a two-year grant that will provide the entire company with a professional trainer and coach to assist and implement lean principles in identifying waste in the manufacturing process.

Brennan said the management team and owners of Bridgeport are pleased and supportive of the West of the River Chamber and consider this grant an invaluable gift.

## Media panel to give advice to businesses on news, ads

The Agawam Small Business Assistance Center will host a free media panel for small business owners, managers and the public Wednesday, March 11, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Sponsor for the event is the Valley Press Club.

A panel of professionals will show participants how to make connections with the media to help increase visibility and position themselves as leaders in their field. Business owners will learn how to define news, write a press release to get noticed, create a media list, what venues of advertising are best, and more.

Panelists include Coleen Dunn, Coleen's Creative Designs, for web design and content management; Amanda Moyers, director of account services at Market Mentors of West Springfield; Scott Porter, local sales manager for WGGB and WSHM television stations

(channels 3, 6 and 40); Fran Smith, ad sales manager for The Republican and MassLive.com; and Craig Swimm, general manager of radio station WMAS in Springfield. Each panel member will talk in general about the benefits and problems in different areas of media. There will also be a question-and-answer discussion and free refreshments at the break courtesy of the Valley Press Club.

Admission to the event is free, but seating is limited, so advanced reservations are necessary. You do not have to be an Agawam resident or Agawam business owner to attend. Registration is available online at [www.asbac.net](http://www.asbac.net) or by calling the reservation hotline at 413-786-0172.

If the Agawam Senior Center is closed because of inclement weather, this workshop will be canceled.

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

## HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to [klanier@turley.com](mailto:klanier@turley.com). Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com) for more information.



Buzzin' from Town to Town



# Classifieds

Turley Publications' Community Marketplace ♦ www.turley.com ♦ Call us toll free at 1-800-824-6548

## For Sale



A public service announcement presented by your community paper

**ANTIQUE AND PERIOD** chairs – Restored with new woven seats – Many styles and weaves available. Call (413)267-9680.

**STAMPS. COLLECTOR PAYS** cash for your collection. Evaluate or buy. Stamp questions? RON. (413)896-3324.

## Tag Sale

**ESTATE SALE, CHURCH ST. WARE, MASS. MARCH 6, 7 & 8. 9-3 DAILY. WATCH FOR SIGNS**

## Antiques

**EASY STREET ANTIQUES** Buying one item or entire estates. Attic, Cellar or whole house clean outs. Buying antique and vintage glassware. Swarovski & Waterford Crystal, pottery, jewelry, coins, watches, old photos, military, toys, Legos, hunting, fishing, stringed instruments, tools & more! Call today 413-626-8603 or www.ezantiques.com

## Craft Fair

**CRAFTERS, VENDORS AND TAG SALERS** wanted Union Church of Christ, 51 Center St. Rt. 21, Ludlow, Ma. 01056 April, 25 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. 6ft table with chairs \$25.00 8ft table with chairs \$35.00. If you are interested in renting a table please call Diane at 413-583-3584

## Firewood

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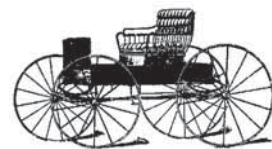
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**200 SILVER STREET:** 3,150 sq. ft. of medical/professional space for lease in a Class A building in Agawam. Join Baystate, Mercy Medical and other quality tenants. Highly visible on Route 75 and easy access to Rte. 57 and I-91. For more information call Development Associates at 413-789-3720 or visit us at www.devassociates.com

**317 MEADOW STREET:** 4,000 - 10,000 sq. ft. of industrial flex space available for lease. Features private offices, manufacturing warehousing workspace, as well as dock & drive-in access. Centrally located to serve the region with easy access to I-90, I-391 and I-291. For more information call Development Associates at 413-789-3720 or visit us at www.devassociates.com

## Commercial Rentals

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**EAST BROOKFIELD:** New Cape in High Rock Estates, 1st floor Master BR, Master BA glass shower & soaking tub, upscale KT/LR, laundry, half bath, hardwoods. 2nd floor 2 large BR, and BA. \$339,900

**NEW BRAINTREE:** Country raised ranch on four plus acres, 3 bedroom, finished lower level, many updates, great fishing near by. \$184,000

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**HARDWICK:** 2 units, 2 BR 1.5 BA, 1 car garage, on each side,

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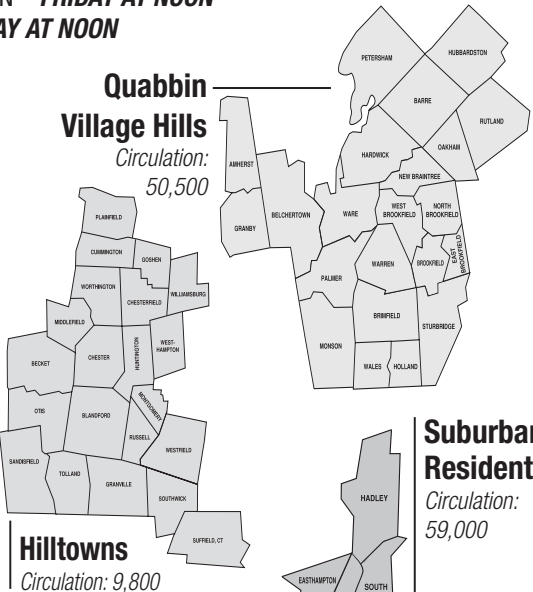
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HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com), fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

### Friday, March 6

THE ACC APPLAUSE SERIES continues with a performance of traditional Irish music by "Banish Misfortune," including traditional jigs, waltzes, polkas and more beginning at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St.

JAY LEVY, SOCIAL WORKER, ADVOCATE AND AUTHOR of "Homeless Narratives & Pretreatment Pathways: From Words to Housing," will be the guest speaker at Springfield Technical Community College, 1 Armory St., at 10:10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in Scibelli Hall (Building 2).

### Sunday, March 8

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St. Presentation and discussion about the first gold coins struck by the U.S. Mint. A small auction will take place and refreshments will be available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-569-98711.

### Monday, March 9

THE AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY CHEERLEADERS will host a pasta dinner fundraiser at Take 5 Restaurant, 944 Springfield St., Feeding Hills with seatings at 5:30 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. Tickets, which are \$15 each, are available through the AHS cheerleaders or at the door the night of the event.

### Tuesday, March 10

AGAWAM FAMILY & COMMUNITY PROGRAM will host "Mom 2 Mom" from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. Informal roundtable discussions for all parents to discuss topics recently presented at a Parent Café and/or Parent Education event. Inquire about community resources. Find support and encouragement. Registration not required. Free childcare available.

THE AGAWAM GARDEN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. at the Pheasant Hill Village Community Room in Feeding Hills. Attendees are asked to bring a hand tool, decorative pot, indoor plant or reference book and take one home. Refreshments will be served. Non-members are welcome.

AGAWAM FAMILY & COMMUNITY PROGRAM will host a Memory Journal Event for children from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. Children will learn to create a memory journal that they will enjoy and treasure for years come. Registration is required; limited space is available.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will hold a blood drive to benefit Mercy Medical Center's blood bank from 2 to 6 p.m. at St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For more information, call 413-786-3091.

A FREE HOME-BUYING SEMINAR will be offered at Keller Williams Realty, Inc., 360 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 413-519-2014 or email [tiffanyMsmith@kw.com](mailto:tiffanyMsmith@kw.com).

### Wednesday, March 11

THE AGAWAM COMMUNITY ARTISTS AND ARTISANS will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., and will feature Loretta Medeiros, acrylic artist. Guests are welcome.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam, will hold an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper. Cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

### Friday, March 13

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER hosted by the Agawam Lions Club at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St., from 5-7 p.m. Tickets available at the door, in advance from any Lions Club member, at Southgate Liquors or Bob's Barber Shop on Maple St.

### Saturday, March 14

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FR. THOMAS SHEA COUNCIL 11178 will host a St. Patrick's Day Dinner from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Lake Church, 224 Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick Tickets are \$8 per person for adults, \$5 for children, and free for children 5 and under. For more information, call District Deputy Al Matos, at 413-569-6914.

### Sunday, March 15

THERE WILL BE A "COLLEEN MEET AND GREET" with the 2015 Agawam colleen and court members from 1 to 3 p.m. at Cooper's, 161 Main St., Agawam. All young lassies are invited to meet the colleen and court for a photo opportunity. Tea, juice and cookies will be served. The Agawam St. Patrick Colleen Committee will provide the little girls with a crown, bouquet of green carnations and Irish wrap to wear for the photo.

### Tuesday, March 17

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

### Saturday, March 21

AGAWAM COMMUNITY & FAMILY PROGRAM will host the Agawam Community Informational Fair from 9 a.m. to noon in the Agawam High School cafeteria, 760 Cooper St. A great opportunity to learn about many local organizations providing services to families. Free child identification with MYCHIP, free Teddy Bear Clinic and face painting. Presentations by Firefighter Pam, Zoo on the Go and more.

### Tuesday, March 24

AGAWAM COMMUNITY & FAMILY PROGRAM WILL HOST "Healthy Sleeping" facilitated by Behavior Health Network from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. It will focus on the science of sleep and the impact of sleep habits on development and behavior in children. Registration is not required.

### Sunday, March 29

THE SPRINGFIELD VETERANS' ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE will hold a public observance for Vietnam Veterans' Day at 1 p.m. It will take place at the Vietnam Veterans' Monument at Court Square in Springfield.

### Tuesday, March 31

AGAWAM FAMILY & COMMUNITY PROGRAM will offer Parent Café from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., or 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. Janet Brown will help parents identify and recognize the skills required for a child to read, and offer practical ways to create a positive reading environment in your home. Free childcare available in the morning only.

### Friday, April 10

THE CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR ANIMALS will host a benefit tag sale Friday, April 10, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Wachogue Congregational Church, 80 Arvilla St., Springfield. For information to donate items, call Susan at 413-782-9006. All proceeds will help dogs and cats in need in Western Massachusetts.

### ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

THE LADIES GLEE CLUB AND MEN'S CHOIR at the Springfield Turnverein, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, are back to work. Practice is held every Wednesday with the ladies beginning at 7 p.m. followed by the men at 8:30 p.m. All are welcome. There is space available for anyone interested in joining.



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Cast members at the Red Door Theatre pose in front of the new stage curtains, funded by a Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts grant. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Red Door sporting new curtains, sound system

New stage curtains opened the Red Door Theatre's 2015 Valentine's Cabaret. The cast proudly showed off their new acquisitions, which were funded by the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts as part of their 25th Anniversary Launch to the Future Project.

The grant of \$14,600 was awarded to Kit and Kaboodle Inc., which is the non-

profit operating organization of the Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills. The grants were awarded from the Nan and Matilda Heydt Fund and the Eugene A. Dexter Charitable fund.

A new sound system was also included in the technical improvement projects for the 24 year-old local community theater.

# No Ifs, Ands or Butts About it. Get Screened!

**MARCH IS  
COLORECTAL CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH.  
SCHEDULE YOUR  
COLONOSCOPY.**

Colorectal Cancer, or colon cancer, is cancer of the colon or the rectum. Colon cancer is the most preventable and curable cancer if detected early.

Beginning at age 50, men and women should be screened for colorectal cancer. If you have a personal or family history of cancer or colorectal polyps, or a personal history of inflammatory bowel disease, talk to your doctor about earlier screening tests.

A colonoscopy is the best way to find and remove colon polyps, preventing colorectal cancer before it starts or catching cancer at its earliest, most curable stage.

March is colorectal cancer awareness month and the perfect time to schedule your colonoscopy!

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## Tickets available for AJWC fashion show

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club will hold its 15th annual fashion show on Sunday, April 19, at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. This year's show, "Fashion in Motion" promises to please the audience with styles from Ann Taylor Loft at the Holyoke Mall.

The doors open at 10 a.m. for vendor shopping and for raffle basket ticket purchases. Brunch will be served at noon followed by the show.

Tickets, which at \$34 each, are on sale now and may be purchased from any AJWC member or by contacting Christina Beauchemin at 413-427-8784.

All proceeds from this event benefit the AJWC scholarship program, as well as its other educational endeavors. The public is invited to join for an afternoon of fun and fashion.

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